

CLAIMS:

5           1.    A camera mounting for a TV/video camera,  
              comprising a base, a counter-balanced arm assembly  
              (10) pivotally mounted on the base (11) at one end  
              thereof to swivel about a vertical axis (A-B) and  
              having a platform (21) for carrying a camera at the  
10           other end thereof, the arm assembly having relatively  
              movable components (16 to 20; 52 to 54) to permit,  
              with said swivelling of the assembly about said  
              vertical axis, movement of the platform in three  
              orthogonal axes; characterised in that the base (11)  
15           of the mounting has a datum point, the mounting has  
              three separate transducer means for determining swivel  
              movement of the arm about said vertical axis (A-B) and  
              relative movement between said arm components in a  
              plane containing said vertical axis, and monitoring  
20           means are provided for determining, from the movements  
              detected by said transducers, the position of the  
              camera platform with respect to the datum point in  
              said three axes to provide information regarding the  
              location of the camera for purposes such as  
25           controlling movement of a virtual reality image to be  
              combined with a real image as seen by the camera as  
              the camera is moved with respect to the datum.

              2.    A camera mounting as claimed in claim 1,  
30           wherein the arm assembly (10) is mounted on the base  
              (11) for rotation about a vertical axis (A-B) through  
              the datum point, the arm assembly providing movement  
              of the camera platform in two orthogonal axes in any  
              plane containing said vertical axis, and said  
35           transducer means comprising first transducer means for  
              determining rotation of the arm about said vertical  
              axis and further transducer means for determining  
              movement of the camera platform in said plane with

respect to the datum point.

5           3.    A camera mounting as claimed in claim 2,  
wherein the arm assembly (10) is telescopic and is  
mounted on the base (10,12) to pivot (14) in a  
vertical plane about a horizontal axis (C).

10           4.    A camera mounting as claimed in claim 2,  
wherein the arm assembly (10) comprises a first arm  
(52) pivotally mounted on the base (11) about a  
horizontal axis and a second arm (53) pivotally  
15           mounted on the first arm about a parallel horizontal  
axis for supporting the camera platform (55).

20           ~~claim 2~~ 5.   A camera mounting as claimed in any of  
A           ~~claims 2 to 4~~, wherein the arm assembly (10) has a  
control point (34, P) connected to the arm assembly so  
that movement of the control point with respect to the  
datum point in the vertical plane containing the arm  
and said vertical axis is directly proportional to the  
movement of the camera platform, and said further  
transducer means is arranged to monitor movement of  
25           the control point with respect to the datum point.

30           6.    A camera mounting as claimed in claim 5,  
wherein the transducer means for monitoring movement  
of the control point (34, P) comprise separate  
transducers for responding to movement of the control  
point with respect to the datum point in vertical and  
horizontal directions.

35           7.    A camera mounting as claimed in claim 3,  
wherein the further transducer means are arranged to  
monitor extension of the arm and pivotal movement of  
the arm about said horizontal axis to monitor the  
position of the camera platform in a vertical plane

with respect to said datum.

5

8. A camera mounting as claimed in claim 4,  
wherein said further transducer means are arranged to  
monitor pivotal movement of the first arm about said  
horizontal axis with respect to the base and pivotal  
10 movement of the second arm with respect to the first  
arm to monitor the position of the camera platform  
with respect to said datum.

15

20

: 13724: GCB: CAP: FURNDOCS